

RIVERBANK NEWS

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HALLOWEEN! DAY OF PRAYER?

By Gordon F. Nelson

"Pope Gregory III (731 AD - 741 AD) ordered the first observance of October 31 by the Roman Catholic Church as "All Saint's Day". In 837 AD, Pope Gregory IV ordered its general observance.

In medieval England, the festival was known as "All Hollows Eve", associated with the prayers for those in Purgatory. The feast was abolished in the Church of England at the Reformation, but has been revived in Anglo-Catholic churches." Chuck Missler, *Koinonia House*

The Roman Catholic Church set aside "All Hallows Eve", or "All Saint's Day", to commemorate "all saints" by the people's prayers on that day. In addition, it was believed that on that day, even the devil aided to help to answer your prayers.

Not only did you pray for the relieving of pain from the fires of Purgatory upon loved ones, but your prayed for "all saints". According to Catholic dogma, saints are identified as mediators between God and man, chief of which is a mediatrix, the Blessed Virgin Mary.

In Catholicism, man is too sinful to make his own approach to God. Hence, you pray to some patron saint, or idol, as the Bible calls it. *"Ye shall make no idols nor graven image, neither rear you up a standing image, neither shall ye set up any image of stone in your land, to bow down unto it: for I am the LORD your God."* Leviticus 26:1.

Jesus is the only "mediator between God and men." 1 Timothy 2:5. *"Wherefore God also hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, things in earth, and things under the earth."* Philippians 2:9-10.

By the doctrine of the "immaculate conception", the Blessed Virgin Mary is the mother of God. She is deified! If she is deity, they should call the Godhead the "Holy Fours" instead of the "Holy Trinity". It is for this reason the Catholic Church has acquired the title, "The Cult of Mary". It is very difficult for the Catholic mindset to comprehend that we mortals can go directly to God with our petitions, and He hears us!

It is true our first prayer should be directed to Jesus; "Lord, be merciful to me a sinner." Following this prayer, we are born again, and can *"come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need."* Hebrews 4:16. We are no longer dogs, but children! The Syrophoenician woman recognized this distinction. *"Yes Lord: yet the dogs (non-Jew) under the table eat of the children's crumbs."* Mark 7:28. (Dogs is the term applied to Gentiles).

In Ephesians 1:4-5 we read these words, *"According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love: having*

predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the good pleasure of his will.” The RiverBank News simply “sows the seed”, and if it falls on good ground, it will grow and bring forth fruit. My job is to sow, the Holy Spirit waters, and God gives the increase. “Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers by whom ye believed, even as the Lord gave to every man? I have planted, Apollos watered; and God gave the increase. So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.” 1 Corinthians 3:5-7.

But, when you build you own kingdom, you become a god! Every kingdom requires a king or lord! The only way we can feel safe that it is His kingdom we are promoting, is by honoring the “empty seat”, the unseen guest, as the Jews do at their feast of Yom Kippur, always leaving an empty seat for Elijah.

As good stewards of God’s money, we should not support programs that do not honor “the empty seat”. When man fills that void, he becomes lord! *“I am come in My Father’s name (a twelve-man board) and ye receive Me not: if another shall come in his own name (a loner), him ye will receive.”* John 5:43. It is only as we obey the principle of going two by two, do we honor the “empty seat”.

“Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.” Acts 13:2. Later Paul and Barnabas split over John Mark. *“And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark...and Paul chose Silas.”* Acts 15:39-40. In a Scofield footnote it reads, “There is no evidence of a single elder (or minister) in the early church.” It never crossed the mind of Paul to go alone!

Paul, in 1 Corinthians 7, seems to infer a “virgin” can be the component part of a two-by-two relationship. *“Nevertheless he that standeth stedfast in his heart, having no necessity, but hath power over his own will, and hath so decreed in his heart that he will keep his virgin, (a virgin) doeth well.”* 1 Corinthians 7:37. Apparently marriage was not entered into as long as they could refrain from having intercourse. *“So then he that giveth her in marriage (to himself) doeth well; but he that giveth her not in marriage doeth better.”* 1 Corinthians 7:38. Why? Paul answers, *“There is a difference also between a wife and a virgin. The unmarried woman careth for the things of the Lord, that she may be holy both in body and in spirit: but she that is married careth for the things of the world, how she may please her husband.”* 1 Corinthians 7:34. The entrance of intercourse changes the woman; and the two by two is annulled in working for God!

Through the miracle of intercourse, two become one, thus a “two by two” relationship no longer exists. *“But and if thou marry, thou has not sinned; and if a virgin marry she has not sinned. Nevertheless, such shall have trouble in this life, and I am trying to spare you.”* 1 Corinthians 7:28.

You will not again enjoy the same tranquility you had in your “two by two” relationship. For Paul even admonishes *“those that have wives should be as though they had none.”* 1 Corinthians 7:29. I feel sure Paul’s admonition here is for those desiring to be apostles and prophets to the Church. Wives of the laity are instructed to marry, have children and *“guide the house”*. 1 Timothy 5:14.

I believe most of the apostles chose a virgin to obey the commandment upon the church, “go two by two”. *“Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labour. For if they fall, the*

one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth: for he hath not another to help him up." Ecclesiastes 4:9-10.

Paul, in bragging about the apostleship of himself and Barnabas, writes, "*Have we not power to LEAD ABOUT A SISTER, a wife, as well as other apostles and as the brethren of the Lord, and Cephas?*" 1 Corinthians 9:5.

"If another shall come in his own name (a loner) him ye will receive." John 5:43. Jesus was speaking on the same subject, *"Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven. Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?"* Matthew 7:21-22. In the 20th century we can add, "In Thy name spoke in other tongues? In Thy name became wealthy through the prosperity gospel? In Thy name became 'little gods'?" *"And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity* (Gr. - lawlessness)." Matthew 7:23. Without government, individually they owned their own churches. I have been in the "maze of Pentecostalism" for over fifty years, and no scripture in the Bible can so accurately describe this movement.

The big sin of Jimmy Swaggart was not the paying of some prostitute \$25 to show off her legs by climbing in and out of a truck. He was guilty of the "lust of the eye" and she called him a cheapskate for not paying more money! The robes of righteous men pulled even tighter, and thus indicating by their verdict: "Never have we been so charged!"

I would pit Jimmy Swaggart's righteousness against his peers anytime. He was called to preach at eight years of age. *"All come short of the glory of God"* (the law of God), even Jimmy Swaggart.

If God can't, or won't, forgive Jimmy Swaggart for his sin, I might as well throw in the towel right now! No hope for me either. But, friend, I don't believe that! The Bible says, *"If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness."* 1 John 1:9. God forgives and forgets. It is man and his religion that can never forgive. Religion nailed Jesus to a cross! *"Crucify Him! His blood be on us, and our children."* Matthew 27:25.

Jimmy Swaggart is no different than Oral Roberts, Robert Tilton, W.V. Grant Jr., Jim and Tammy Bakker, Marilyn Hickey, Kenneth Copelin, Jerry Saville, etc. (the list is endless); they all have one thing in common, "they come in their own name." This was the sin of Jimmy Swaggart, being a "lord over God's heritage". Do you think the Assemblies of God will mourn over this sin?

I heard Jim Bakker state, just before they hauled him off to prison, "If I had it to do over, I'd follow the Billy Graham example, and put the PTL in the hands of twenty-five men of God, and touch none of the money. They in turn would decide my worth, monetarily."

Dr. Bebe H. Patten found the correct way to have government in the church after I was instrumental in sending the late C. Thomas Patten to San Quentin. Sorry, we just don't have room in our jails to bring about Biblical repentance from all the convicted Pentecostal clergy.

“And ye are puffed up, and have not mourned.” 1 Corinthians 5:2. Paul is writing a corrective letter to the church of Corinth. *“It is reported commonly (the news is abroad) that there is fornication among you, and such fornication (unknown to the heathen)...that one should have his father’s wife.”* 1 Corinthians 5:1. Even the heathen don’t sleep with their own father’s wife.

What upsets Paul is that no one is upset over the matter! In fact, just the opposite; they are “puffed up” (Gr. - haughty, make proud).

This is why I am so upset; in fifty years, I have never seen anyone in the church that was upset over preachers being gods to their congregation (no government). Everybody’s doing it! Please don’t rock the boat!

This sin of a preacher totally owning the church is so prevalent that it can be compared to the “sin in Corinth”. *“And ye are puffed up, and have not mourned.”* 1 Corinthians 5:2. Do you think the Assemblies of God mourn over Jim and Tammy Bakker owning their own non-profit religious incorporation?

Every preacher coming out of Kenneth Hagin’s Bible College in Tulsa is encouraged to own the church; become a “lord” over their congregation. *“In the latter days ye shall consider it perfectly. I have not sent these prophets, yet they ran: I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied. But IF they had stood in my counsel, and caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned from their evil way.”* Jeremiah 23:20-21.

God’s Word declares, if the preachers would tell them the truth, the people will repent! A snowball in hell would have a better chance of making it, than the odds of D. James Kennedy repenting of Calvinism! These are “puffed up and do not mourn” over a false doctrine. Dr. C.I. Scofield and his Dallas Theological Bible Seminary have done a thorough job of sowing tares among the wheat. *“But while men slept, his enemy came and sowed tares among the wheat, and went his way...Let both grow together until the harvest: and in the time of the harvest I will say to the reapers, Gather ye together FIRST the tares.”* Matthew 13:25,30.

We are living in the time of the harvest.

In Revelation are listed seven churches, and each church represents a certain period of time since apostolic days.

- 1) Ephesus - the church at the end of the Apostolic Age
- 2) Smyrna - the church under persecution - 100 AD - 316 AD
- 3) Pergamos - the church mixing with the world during the Middle Ages
- 4) Thyatira - how evil progresses and idolatry is practiced
- 5) Sardis - the Dark Ages, the church as dead, yet still has a minority of godly men and women, as during the Reformation

6) Philadelphia - the church in revival! Its birth is attributed to greatest preacher since the Apostle Paul, George Whitfield. The church of the “open door” that no man can close! This generation of believers under the guiding hand of John Wesley, soundly defeated Calvinism. Under Whitfield’s preaching, the people were known as “shakers”, they were so shaken under the power of God. The Methodists were termed “the jerkers”. Philadelphia is scriptural. Azusa Street cannot be found in the Bible!

The first evidence of tongues broke up the “one world religion” of Nimrod. Azusa Street will gather all together in the “one world church”. An evil and adulteress generation seeketh after a sign. Catholicism has no objection to “tongues”.

Charles Finney, founder of Oberlin College, brought revival in his generation by his constant hammering of a new revitalized form of Calvinism.

History is on our side! We don’t have to debate C.R.I. (Christian Research Institute). Whitfield and Wesley won the war. The spoils: the birth of the Philadelphian church.

Our Christian heritage is not Azusa Street! A black Nazarene preacher, Brother Seymour is not our leader! Tongues stems from the Tower of Babel and stood for confusion! Nimrod built a tower into heaven through unbelief! If God would send another flood, he would be ready for Him this time! *“The LORD came down to see the city and tower, which children of men builded.”* Genesis 11:5. Nimrod did not believe in the “bow in the clouds” whereby God covenanted with man. Genesis 9:9-17. *“Neither shall all flesh be cut off any more by the waters of a flood.”*

“Tongue talking preachers” have two of the sins of Nimrod. One is pride. The other is they build contrary to God; either they “hire” themselves out to preach, or else become a “lord over God’s heritage.” Matthew 7:21-23 correctly singles out this religion!

Take me to your leader! George Whitfield defeated Calvinism, and birthed the Philadelphia church. John Darby and Dr. C.I. Scofield, at the turn of the century, sowed “tares into the field”. It is harvest time, the time God said He will deal with the tares. The tares are being bundled all into one bundle, termed Laodicea. *“Let them grow together until harvest time.”* Matthew 13:30.

The Azusa Street meetings, held in an Old Glory Barn in Los Angeles, California, were conducted by a black Nazarene minister, Reverend Seymour. Brother Seymour came direct to Los Angeles from the Topeka Kansas Bible College where “speaking in an unknown tongue” became evident among the students praying in a holiness prayer meeting. This miraculous manifestation first occurred at the turn of the century, about 1900 AD, and quickly spread throughout the world.

The Assemblies of God, the Foursquare Pentecostal Holiness, the Pentecostal Church of God, and the Church of God in Christ, have all tried to put the Holy Ghost in their box. He doesn’t fit! He always “oozes out”! The Holy Ghost is for “all flesh”. *“I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh.”* Joel 2:28.

If they had tried to place the Holy Ghost in an organism (local church autonomy) instead of an organization, they would have been far more successful. Organisms are like cells in your body; they have life! An organization can never move with “the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by

night". It is stationary. THIS is what we believe! We are entrenched on sound doctrine. Sad to say, this is the reason why Pentecostals will not grasp the fact that God has left them, just as He had the Lutherans and Methodists that preceded them. What organizations forget is that God is alive! He will move again, just as He has done in the past. Brother William Branham constantly warned the Church, that she might be able to move whenever He moved.

How is Pentecostalism today any better off than the Lutherans of bygone years after God left them?! God leads us along by unveiling more of His Word to us. The Book never changes! "Speaking in tongues" was always in the Bible, but man never discovered it until 1900 AD. Are there other truths locked in the Holy Writ? Don't expect an organization to worry about that one. We have our creeds all nailed down! This is a perfect picture of Laodicea. All nailed down in John Calvin's "unconditional eternal security".

Take me to your leader! Azusa Street and Reverend Seymour are not mentioned in the Bible, but George Whitfield is! Take me to your leader!

Under George Whitfield and John Wesley of England, God birthed the Philadelphia Church. They fought and won the good fight of faith against a tremendous theologian, John Calvin. The world was going to Hell in a handbasket under Calvinism.

Today, Laodicea is attempting to revive that which is dead to every Philadelphian Christian: "unconditional eternal security". We are the overcomers. We overcame Calvinism with George Whitfield's help. We are not mere believers. For *"the devils also believe, and tremble."* James 2:19. For all their knowing, they still are lost.

These lies of evolution and unconditional salvation do not have to be refuted in each generation, just *"believe a lie: that they might be damned who believed not the truth."* 2 Thessalonians 2:11-12.

About six months ago, on March 29, 1994, a document called Evangelicals and Catholics Together: The Christian Mission in the Third Millennium, was presented for signatures. Father Richard John Neuhaus, and Chuck Colson wrote the document. About forty ministers and priests signed, among them being Pat Robertson (ex-Baptist), Bill Bright of Campus Crusade for Christ, representatives of Fuller Theological Seminary, Wheaton College, the Southern Baptist Convention, Assemblies of God, National Association of Evangelicals, Cardinal John O'Connor of the Archdiocese of New York. Supposedly, Evangelicals and Catholics needed to show a united front against Islam, a foe of Israel.

In reality, on March 29, 1994, with the signing of this document, the final church (representing the tares), Laodicea, was born, the lukewarm church of Revelation 3:15.

The same cord binds all the bundles of tares! The cord is "unconditional eternal security". This is the cord that will bind all the Southern Baptists into one bundle of tares. Next, we get another bundle of tares of the graduates of Wheaton College, and pull tight the cord to bind the tares together. Isn't it strange how God works? What He has promised He will deliver! *"Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing: and knowest not thou are wretched, miserable, and poor and blind, and naked."* Revelation 3:17. Do you think Laodicea has unconditional salvation now?

Pat Robertson spoke in other tongues, but never gave up on his Baptist doctrine of unconditional salvation. Charles Stanley was the guest speaker for the last 700 Club convention. Birds of a feather will come together. This is what we are witnessing right before our eyes: Laodicea. "Leave them alone until harvest time!" God knows how to separate the wheat from the tares!

Laodiceans (Revelation 3:14-19) are neither "hot nor cold". Non-believers are cold, but these are lukewarm. The main purpose of the RiverBank News is to challenge the lukewarm believer in Christ to become hot! When you're hot, you'll be able to see through the age-old lie of John Calvin. The theory of your being a robot chained in the Father's hand is totally absurd!

An interesting coincidence from history: the United States of America gained its independence from England on July 4, 1776. That very year, a Jew by the name of Adam Weishaupt, set about to enslave us. On May 1, 1776, he founded the Illuminati, the original May Day. The vehicle Adam Weishaupt found receptive to his concept of slavery was Freemasonry.

Being the very first Secretary Treasurer of the United States of America, many feel this department was impacted by Alexander Hamilton in a way similar to George Washington leaving his influence on America. Alexander Hamilton was both an Illuminist and a Freemason.

Supposedly, the "eye" over the pyramid on a dollar bill represents God or, does the "illuminated ones" or "enlightened ones" see this eye to represent the directive from secret societies?

Is it accidental that no man ascended the Oval Office in Washington DC without first being a member of Freemasonry or the Knights of Columbus? In the entire history of our nation, only one man succeeded; Ronald Reagan (he joined in his second term of office). No one has ever been a candidate for President from either party who was not first a member of New York's elite C.F.R. (Council on Foreign Relations), except Barry Goldwater. He, like Reagan, later succumbed and joined.

Could the "eye" on the dollar bill more applicably be representative of the "superior ones" who guide the masses undetected through news media coverups? When do newspapers herald the meetings of the C.F.R., the Trilateral Commission, the Bohemian Club, The Club of Rome, and the Bilderberger's of Europe?

Not since Barry Goldwater has the mass news media been so opposed to one candidate; Oliver North. Christians need to pray for Ollie. Could it be, as with Barry, he hasn't joined the club (C.F.R.)?

Remember, the next Presidential election will be rigged. Both candidates will be members of C.F.R. The "enlightened ones" do not gamble. They make sure they win.

The eye over the pyramid is the eye of the Illuminated, or "enlightened ones", who are always watching over you. This is not the eye of the Big Brother as some suppose, but rather the eye of secret societies, chief of which is the Masonic Lodge. The superior ones all feel we are incapable of absolute freedom. They believe we would self-destruct with pure freedom.

“As in the spiritual, so in the natural or physical,” Morris Cerullo screams out in crusades around the world. At the very time the Holy Ghost was being poured out at Azusa Street, is when John Darby, coupled with Dr. C.I. Scofield, began the sowing of tares at the turn of the century; 1900 AD.

No one knows who built the pyramids. Man, with all his modern technology cannot duplicate the building of these giant granites of stone. Built inside these tombs (in a labyrinth of tunnels) is the gospel story. God gives the gospel in the stars, the gospel in stone, and the written gospel. *“The Lord is not slack concerning His promises...nor willing that any should perish, but all should come to repentance.”* 2 Peter 3:9.

In Luke 19:40, the scripture says “the stones will cry out.” They have a message! These pyramids are complete, except for the very top stone, the chief corner stone is missing! You are supposed to hear the message crying out from the stones! *“The stone which the builders rejected, the same is become the head of the corner.”* Matthew 21:42.

“Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his (spiritual) house upon a rock.” Matthew 7:24. He heard the message of the pyramids!

The church of Colosse was the real Halloween church, desiring to intrude into the world of the supernatural and tell of things “they had not seen”. Colossians 2:18. Colosse is the type of church that could have easily been another Jim Jones of Waco, or more recently, Luc Jouret, a 46-year-old homeopathic physician and spiritual explorer, expounding on New Age theories. These self-made messiahs always sit in the “empty seat”, thus displacing the chief cornerstone. It is always the same, and thus likened unto the man that built his house upon the sand. God invariably tests the foolish man’s house. *“Blind leaders of the blind and they all fall in the ditch.”* Luke 6:39.

As a farewell for now, remember this phrase that I coined, “A loose cannon on the deck has no right to rule the church of the living God.”

Paul instructed Colosse to “hold the head”. *“Let no man beguile you.”* Colossians 2:18. We live in the hour of deception, and the devil transforms himself into an angel of light. An angel of light is a preacher that teaches “gain is godliness”. 1 Timothy 6:5. The Bible doctrine is stated thusly, *“But godliness with contentment is great gain...And having food and raiment let us be therewith content. But they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts.”* 1 Timothy 6:6,8-9. This is not the objective of religion, that you should find contentment, but, as the Bible promises, a rest! The RiverBank News is dedicated to you finding that objective. We labor to that end! Read Hebrews 4:8-11, *“Let us labour (together) to enter into rest (in spite of religion).”*